

July 8, 1997

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Atlanta Regional Office
Attn: Mr. Gleny S. Marshall, P.E.
Parkridge 85 North Building
3125 Presidential Parkway - Suite 300
Atlanta, Georgia 30340

SUBJECT: CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION STANDBY SERVICE WATER POND

Dear Mr. Marshall:

Our office has received the draft operation inspection report for the Catawba Nuclear Station Standby Service Water Pond dam. The report was dated May 9, 1997.

The draft report makes five recommendations for improving maintenance and operation of the dam and related structures: 1) increase the dam inspection frequency; 2) rework the area surrounding piezometer P-7, and clean and test the piezometer; 3) conduct horizontal movement surveys; 4) install a surface monument on top of the outlet structure; and 5) monitor regional subsidence.

The draft report also indicated that the dam should be assigned "Significant" hazard potential. The hazard potential recommendation was based on the existence of a structure near the left downstream toe of the dam. We have been advised by the licensee, Duke Power Company, that the structure in question has subsequently been removed.

Our staff has reviewed your report, and we concur with recommendations one through five, as summarized above. Considering that the structure near the left downstream toe of the dam has been removed, a "Low" hazard potential will now apply for the dam. We will inform the licensee that documentation of the removal of the structure in question must be provided for use in your evaluation. We have no further additions or corrections to your report.

Prior to issuance of the final report, we request that Mr. Jason J. Chen, P.E., of your office, discuss your findings with us. If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please call Mr. Daniel Rom at (301) 415-6704.

Sincerely,

(original signed by)

Joseph J. Holonich, Chief
Uranium Recovery Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

D Rom
1/0

NRC FILE CENTER COPY

Docket Nos. 50-413, 50-414

DISTRIBUTION: FILE CENTER PUBLIC NMSS r/f URB r/f CNWRA
ACNW CCain RIV JGreeves TLJohnson
Resident Inspectors

DOCUMENT NAME: S:\DWM\URB\DSR\CATAWBA..REV



OFC	URB		NRR		URB	C	URB	✓		
NAME	DRom <i>DJR</i>		PTam <i>DSR</i>		DGillen		JHolonich			
DATE	7/3/97		7/3/97		7/3/97	H	7/5/97			

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

9707100138 970708
PDR ADOCK 05000413
G PDR